

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:725

ANSWERED ON:25.02.2009

AMENDMENT IN CABLE TELEVISION NETWORKS REGULATION ACT

Kalmadi Shri Suresh

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

- (a) whether proposals have been received from the State Governments including Maharashtra to amend the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act,1995 to make it mandatory for the Cable Operators to get themselves registered;
- (b) if so,the details thereof;
- (c) whether any action has been taken by the Government in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) if not,whether the said proposals are pending with the Government; and
- (f) if so,the reasons therefor and the time by which these are likely to be accepted/rejected by the Government?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND INFORMATION & BROADCASTING (SHRI ANAND SHARMA)

(a): Yes,Sir. Proposal from State Government of Maharashtra for amendment in Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act,1995 has been received.

(b): State Government of Maharashtra is of the view that there is no provision in the said Act to check the cable operator evading payment of entertainment duty and has therefore, proposed an amendment in the Act enabling the registering authority to refuse to grant or renewal of registration certificate of those cable operators,who have not paid entertainment tax under the State Act.

(c) to (e): The amendment of the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act,1995 in the light of the recommendations of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) regarding "restructuring of cable services" received by the Government on 25.7.2008 are under consideration of Government. The proposal of State Government will also be taken into consideration while deciding the matter.

(f): No time frame could be given in such policy issues.